

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listing of claims in the application.

Listing of Claims

1. (Currently amended) A removable processing cap assembly for isolation of contents in a stoppered container, comprising:

a cap having a top and a bottom, said cap comprising a housing with a sealing perimeter at the top of the cap adjoined to a conformable section, said conformable section having an internal recess for engaging with a stopper and for sealing around a container opening, wherein said cap allows ~~forms a vapor path for~~ vapor passage between the container and an external atmosphere;

~~a venting media oriented in said vapor path and attached to the sealing perimeter~~ at the top of the cap and external to said container opening forming a barrier isolating the container from the external atmosphere;

~~a stopper seated in a first position within the processing cap adjacent the recess, said first position allowing passage of vapor between the container opening and the external atmosphere;~~

~~said stopper being movable to a second position in the container to close the container opening and prevent the passage of vapor~~

2. (Original) The cap assembly of claim 1, wherein said cap is hermetically sealed to said container.

3. (Original) The cap assembly of claim 1, wherein said cap comprises a single material.

4. (Original) The cap assembly of claim 1, wherein said cap comprises at least two components.

5. (Original) The cap assembly of claim 4, wherein said cap assembly comprises a rigid section and a conformable section.

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Currently amended) A cap assembly for the isolation of contents in a stoppered container comprising:

a cap having a top and a bottom, said cap comprising a housing having a sealing perimeter at the top of the cap adjoined to a conformable section with an interior recess adapted for sealing around an exterior opening of a container ~~and for surrounding a stopper in the recess over the container, wherein~~ said cap ~~allows~~ forms a vapor path for vapor passage between the container and an external atmosphere; and

a venting media oriented in said vapor path and external to said exterior opening of the container forming a barrier isolating the container from the external atmosphere,

~~said cap assembly being adapted for maintaining the stopper in a first position which allows passage of vapor between said container and the external atmosphere and moving said stopper to a second position to close the container and prevent the passage of vapor, wherein the cap and venting media are further removable from the closed container.~~

9. (Original) The cap assembly of claim 8, wherein said cap is hermetically sealed to said container.

10. (Original) The cap assembly of claim 8, wherein said cap comprises a single material.

11. (Original) The cap assembly of claim 8, wherein said cap comprises at least two components.

12. (Original) The cap assembly of claim 11, wherein said cap assembly comprises a rigid section and a conformable section.

13. (Original) The cap assembly of claim 8, wherein said venting media comprises a hydrophobic material.

14. (Previously presented) The cap assembly of claim 8, wherein said venting media comprises expanded polytetrafluoroethylene.

15 – 26. (Cancelled)

27. (Currently amended) A cap assembly comprising for isolation of contents in a stoppered container, comprising:

a multiple component body including a removable housing sealed to a conformable base having a recess for sealing to an internally housed container, said housing forms a vapor path for vapor passage between the container and an external atmosphere; and

a venting media configured to contact with the conformable base of the body and oriented in said vapor path forming a barrier isolating the container from the external atmosphere, during drying processes.

28. (Previously presented) The cap assembly of claim 27 further comprising a top covering.

29. (Previously presented) The cap assembly of claim 28 wherein the top covering is sealed to the venting media.

30. (Previously presented) The cap assembly of claim 28 further comprising a gasket between the top covering and the venting media.

31. (Cancelled)

32. (Currently amended) A removable sealing and barrier device compatible with stopper and vial assemblies comprising:

a cap comprising a removable housing sealed to a conformable section having an internal recess for sealing around a container opening, said cap forms a vapor path for vapor passage between the container opening an external atmosphere; and

a venting media configured to contact with the housing of the cap and oriented in said vapor path forming a barrier isolating the container from the external atmosphere. [[; and]]

~~a self-sealing stopper within the internal recess of the cap and seated in a first position for maintaining a seal with the vial, said stopper being modulated to a second position to allow passage of vapor between the container and the external atmosphere, wherein said venting media is removable to expose sealed stopper.~~

33 – 36 (Cancelled)

37. (New) The cap assembly of Claim 1, wherein a stopper seated in a first position within the processing cap adjacent the recess, said first position allowing passage of vapor between the container opening and the external atmosphere;

said stopper being movable to a second position in the container to close the container opening and prevent the passage of vapor;

wherein said cap and venting media are able to be removed from the stoppered container.

38. (New) The cap assembly of Claim 8, wherein said cap assembly is adapted for maintaining the stopper in a first position which allows passage of vapor between said container and the external atmosphere and moving said stopper to a second position to close the container and prevent the passage of vapor.

39. (New) The cap assembly of Claim 32, wherein a self-sealing stopper is provided within the internal recess of the cap and seated in a first position for maintaining a seal with the vial, said stopper being modulated to a second position to allow passage of vapor between the container and the external atmosphere, wherein said venting media is removable to expose sealed stopper.